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MEETING MINUTES
STATE CONSUMER AND FAMILY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

February 12, 2009

Present: Nancy Black, Terry Burgess, Gladys Christian, Zack Commander, Bill Cook, Kathy Crocker, Roger Griesinger, Libby Jones, Laura Keeney, Ron Kendrick, Paul Russ, Renee Sisk, Andrea Stevens, Rosemary Weaver and Glenda Woodson.

Absent: Wilda Brown, Marianne Clayter, Carol DeBerry, Carl Noyes, David Taylor Jr. and Amelia Thorpe,

Staff Present: Leza Wainwright, Chris Phillips, Cathy Kocian, Jesse Sowa and Eric Fox.

Guests: Gail Boswell, Anna Cunningham, Frank Edwards, Fred Johnson and Brianna Woodson.

Presenter & Topic	Discussion	Action
Welcome: Ron Kendrick, SCFAC Chair	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The meeting was called to order at 9:30 AM.	The agenda was approved. The January 2009 minutes were approved with changes.
Public Comment	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• There was brief discussion regarding an email exchange between Kathy Crocker and Annaliese Dolph, Disability Rights NC. Ms. Dolph has requested a copy of the past local CFAC to SCFAC survey. Andrea Stevens confirmed that she advised Annaliese that she could obtain the survey and Data Report on the SCFAC website: www.ncdhhs.gov/mhddsas/scfac/index.htm• Anna Cunningham, Board President of The Power of the Dream, Inc, presented an overview on Microboards. In addition, she distributed a flyer on the upcoming free informational session on <i>Microboards for People with Developmental Disabilities</i> which is taking place February 19, 2009 from 10:30 to 2:00pm at Southside Library at 3185 Buchanan Street, Winston-Salem, NC. Ron Kendrick requested that Anna send him a white paper on the Microboard concept and he would distribute it.• Frank Edwards, Wake CFAC and Co President NAMI Wake County, explained how NC NAMI has a conference call and each member affiliate calls in to review what is occurring at the state and local level. Frank suggested that SCFAC consider a similar approach with the local CFACs and have a direct monthly contact with SCFAC leadership. Kathy Crocker, SCFAC/LCFAC Interface Task Team Chair, stated this was a great idea, but it goes beyond the scope of SCFAC and statute responsibilities. Additionally, Kathy described the local CFAC survey as well as the existing State CFAC process to fulfill the statutory task to	

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	<p>“receive the findings and recommendations by local CFACs regarding ways to improve the delivery of mental health, developmental disabilities, and substance abuse services. Kathy and Frank decided to get together to discuss ways to improve communication between the local CFAC and SCFAC.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Libby Jones requested SCFAC input on the term “participants” for the Staff Qualifications workgroup discussion. Several members provided recommendations on various terms for individuals who utilize MH/DD/SA services. Overall, members felt that this was not the time to be changing terms due to the cost of amending written materials. 	
<p>Discussion with Division Leadership Leza Wainwright</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leza informed the committee that she is now the sole Director of the Division of MH/DD/SAS but that none of the Division Directors have been affirmatively assigned to their position under Secretary Cansler. • Leza observed that this session of the General Assembly may be long and will be difficult due to economic conditions, financial restraints and funding issues. Additionally, there exists a major shortfall in the State’s employee health plan and a bill has been filed to resolve this issue. • The Division’s budget is largely service dollars and given that the tax revenues were lower than anticipated, the Governor directed all state departments to develop plans to cover possible shortfalls in the amount of 3-5-7% reductions. A reduction of 7% represents 59 million dollars from the DMH/DD/SAS system. The list of proposed reductions are painful and unfortunately come mostly from service dollars and include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Closing Wright and Whitaker schools. There are some alternative private providers in the community that can serve the needs of the children. ○ Closing of two twenty-five adult beds at Broughton and Cherry hospital. ○ Reduce LME Administrative funding. ○ Reduce operating expenses for Central administration. ○ Reduce MH/DD/SA community services. ○ Possible consolidation of LME systems management. • Zack Commander inquired about the housing specialists. Leza stated that Julia Bick handles the regional housing specialists and each LME has a housing coordinator. • Rosemary Weaver asked about the Federal stimulus package in terms of Medicaid relief. Medicaid is a blend of State and Federal funding. Leza discussed the Federal Medical Assistance Program (FMAP) that would provide assistance to NC. In addition, there is money in the stimulus package that would allow for the development of an electronic health record which would improve quality of care. • SCFAC members discussed the current economic situation in NC in terms of 	<p>Ron Kendrick suggested that SCFAC members submit their questions and concerns to Leza prior to the SCFAC meeting.</p>

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business closings and losses of jobs for people. This leads to less tax revenues generated for state expenses. Leza stated that a vast majority of the state's expense is with employees, and the Division has approximately 12,000 employees, all but 200 of whom are in the institutions. It was noted that when a Reduction in Force (RIF) is implemented all affected employees have priority to be re-hired when the hiring freeze is lifted. The Federal stimulus package does not include direct service dollars for NC, other than the proposed Medicaid increase. The stimulus is designed to fund projects to create jobs or keep people employed.

- Laura Keeney asked about substance abuse issues and Leza acknowledged that if the Division has to make cuts in community services, then that should be done in a manner so as to not jeopardize mental health and substance abuse block grant money.
- Leza discussed the current state operated psychiatric hospital situation in NC. Cherry hospital lost its Medicaid certification and the goal is to reapply in April. Historically, it takes forty-five to sixty days for the feds to come and re-certify the hospital. It is hoped that re-certification will occur by June. The state has until February 19, 2009 to satisfy federal inspectors that Central Regional Hospital (CRH) meets requirements to avoid losing federal funding. Secretary Cansler has instituted a zero tolerance policy on abuse of patients in State Operated Facilities.
- Dick Oliver has been appointed the full time CEO of Albemarle Mental Health Center (AMHC) for as long as the state is in control. The goal is to get the local management system within the next six to nine months. AMHC currently owes \$700,000 in Administration Bills due to unpaid rent and insurance. In addition, the payroll taxes have not been paid for January and February. The Division is looking into the money owed to providers and working toward making payment arrangements. The majority of high level staff has left AMHC to find new jobs. Currently the goal is to establish an effective Finance office in one location versus several offices spread out over multiple counties. Members of the LME Board apparently were not aware of the extent of financial difficulties and liabilities. If the program were to go bankrupt, the deficit must be covered by the ten counties being served.
- SCFAC members discussed the fact that many board members do not have financial backgrounds and are not familiar with the reports. The Division web site has an on-line training course designed for LME Board members at <http://www.ncdhhs.gov/mhddsas/government.htm>.
- Ron Kendrick stated that all of the local CFACs now have access to the current county fund balance statement and that data is available that identifies each county's contribution into the MH/DD/SAS funding.
- According to Legislative requirement, by July 1, 2009, 30% of the state's

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	<p>population should fall under LME UM (this can include Piedmont). Seven LMEs applied to do UM and 4 met the requirements. Those LMEs approved included Durham, Mecklenburg, Eastpointe and Western Highlands Network. However, the Mecklenburg Board is having second thoughts about moving forward at this time. There are costs involved with this function (IT and additional staff for instance) that LMEs will have to fund.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ron Kendrick said that he believes that the Secretary should have a part in LME Director hiring decisions. • Andrea Stevens discussed the current limit on Community Support Services (eight hours per week for children and adults) noting that, as a result, providers are now utilizing other, often more appropriate services. • Laura Keeney requested information on Single Stream Funding, and wanted to know if money can be held for special projects. Leza stated that Single Stream funding applies to state dollars only, does not include any MH or SA Block Grant money and that, in the single stream funding arrangement, no money is specifically earmarked for any disability group. In addition, if the money is not used before the year's end the money will revert to the State. 	
LOC PowerPoint Ron Kendrick	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carl Noyes developed a PowerPoint that will be presented to the LOC on Tuesday, February 17, 2009. The PowerPoint was accepted with changes. 	Cathy Kocian will make the requested changes and email the final version to SCFAC members.
Secretary Cansler Invitation Kathy Crocker	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kathy Crocker developed a letter to send to Secretary Cansler requesting his presence at an upcoming SCFAC meeting in either March or April. • SCFAC members suggested the following items be discussed during the Secretary's visit: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Increase main funding sources despite the economic crisis, ○ Eliminate duplication, waste, and abuse of the system, ○ Enhance accountability with appropriate level of authorities, ○ Increase penetration rates to get information to people served, ○ Increase consumer involvement, ○ Development of Peer Support Programs with funding and ○ Clinicians held accountable for fidelity with evidenced-based best practices. 	Kathy Crocker will make the necessary changes to the letter and send it to Cathy Kocian for formatting and distribution.
SCFAC Emails	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kathy Crocker made a motion pertaining to all SCFAC email correspondence between SCFAC members and requested that the Subject line include the subject matter, the urgency level and the deadline. The motion passed with a majority vote. 	
Response Task Team Ron Kendrick	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ron Kendrick stated that the Response Task Team will now include all the Chairs of the Task teams and a few other SCFAC members. 	Ron Kendrick will update the current Response Task Team Operating Statement.
Budget Task Team	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nancy Black and Ron Kendrick met with Bill Scott, Team Leader for the 	The Task Team submitted their

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Nancy Black	<p>Budget and Finance Team. Starting in March, the counties will start to post dates for budget discussions in the local counties.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SCFAC members received the budget information on fund balances and ranked county contributions for 2007-2008 and 2008-2009. Ron suggested that the members review the charts side-by-side and look for increases in funding. Ron also suggested that the spreadsheets include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ the per capita tax base, ◦ the percentage of per capita giving to the per capita tax base, and ◦ the ranked structure that shows the ranking by number generated by percentage of per capita giving. 	<p>Operating Statement.</p> <p>Nancy Black is developing a white paper on data.</p>
Services Task Team Andrea Stevens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Andrea stated that the Task team has been researching the LMEs local business plans (LBPs) on line and that all LMEs don't have their LBP posted. In addition, all LMEs had to conduct the Needs Assessment according to the Performance Contract and the current assessment is due March 31, 2009. 	The Task Team submitted their Operating Statement.
Plans Task Team Roger Griesinger	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Roger Griesinger and Zack Commander met with Rebecca Carina and Markita Keaton to discuss the State's Strategic Plan. Roger was interested in gathering information on the present status of work objectives and goals within the Division. 	
SCFAC/LCFAC Interface Task Team Kathy Crocker	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The task team worked on their Operating Statement which includes definition of what constitutes technical assistance to local CFACs. • The Team is in the process of completing the pre-survey letter that will be sent via email and US mail to local CFAC Chairs and Liaisons. In addition, they are creating an on-line survey that will be completed by the local CFACs. The Task team will develop a report based on the survey findings from the local CFACs. • One of the goals for the team is to produce timely memos to meet statute requirements in order to provide technical assistance to the local CFACs. 	The Task Team will submit their Operating Statement via email.
Next Meeting Date	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The next meeting is scheduled for March 12, 2009 from 9:30-3:00 PM. The meeting will be held in the Four Sisters Room at the Clarion Hotel State Capital, 320 Hillsborough Street, Raleigh, NC. 	
March 2009 Meeting Agenda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approval of the Agenda. • Approval of the February 2009 minutes. • Discussion with Division Leadership. • Public Comment Time. • Secretary Cansler. • LOC meeting update. • Substance abuse presentation. • Protocol for visiting the General Assembly members. • Discuss procedure to be followed in the absence of Chair/Vice Chair. • Task Team Reports. 	

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	• Task Team Work Sessions.	
Future Meeting Topics		